XIII.

The LETTER Torn in Pieces:

OR,

A Full Confutation

OF

Ludlow's Suggestions,

THAT

King Charles I.

WAS

An Enemy to the STATE:

By the Author of Two Papers formerly Published, *Viz.*

The Vindication of the Honour of King *Charles* the First.

And the Earnest Call to the People of *England*, &c.

In which

There is a Clear Vindication of His MAJESTIES Carriage towards the CHURCH.

Μνήμη Δικαίων μετ' ἘΝΚΩΜΙΩΝ, Prov. 10. 7.

Licensed, *Sept.* 29. 1692. *Edmund Bohun.*

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Edm. Elys the author.

1.

NO doubt but HELL is more Enrag'd
'Gainſt Saints in HEAVEN, then when they're here:
Hence 'tis that *LUDLOW*'s Pen's Ingag'd
To Blot Great *CHARLES*'s His Character.

2.

Such *Painted Crimes* on Him to Place
Doth to His Laſting *Glory* Add:
True Goodneſs Shines with greater Grace
By the Enmity of *All that's Bad.*

3.

A *REGICIDE* muſt needs *Hate* KINGS:
But all his Fury's Spent in Vain:
His Conſcience has a Thouſand Stings,
His Soul's ſtill full of *Rage* and *Pain.*

4.

Go, *Fiend Incarnate*, do thy worſt,
Fill all the Earth with thy Dire Name,
Let All Men ſee that thou art Curſt,
Thy HELLISH MALICE to Proclaim.

Anno DOM. 1691.

THE LETTER Torn in PIECES, &c.

WHatſoever Errors, or Miſcarriages in Government, Our Gracious Soveraign K C. the Firſt had been Guilty of (either through ill Advice, or the Common Frailty of all Mankind) moſt evident it is that he made full ſatisfaction for them in Granting the *Petition of Right*: And as to thoſe *Fears, and Jealouſies*, which were rais'd againſt Him after the Granting of that Petition, as if he Deſign'd to Act Contrary to the Laws of the Land, ſo that he could not undertake to juſtifie His Actions to His own Parliament, and to all the World, as agreeable to His Juſt and Honourable Profeſſions, to prevent all Appearance of Reaſon for ſuch Fears and Jealouſies, he bound himſelf by a Law not to *Diſſolve* the then Preſent Parliament as long as they deſir'd to *Continue*; upon which Act His Majeſty Reflects thus in His Εικων Βασιλικη 'By this Act of higheſt Confidence, 'I hoped for ever to 'ſhut out, and lock the Door, upon all preſent Jealouſies, and Future Miſtakes; 'I confeſs I did not thereby intend to ſhut my ſelf our of Doors, as ſome 'Men have now requited me.

'True, It was an Act unparallel'd by any of my Predeceſſors; yet cannot 'in Reaſon admit any worſe Interpretation than this, of an Extream Confi- 'dence I had, that my Subjects would not make ill uſe of an Act, by which 'I declar'd ſo much to truſt them as to deny My ſelf in ſo high a point of My 'Prerogative. Sure it had argued a very ſhort ſight of things, and Extream 'Fatuity of Mind in Me, ſo far to bind My own Hands at their Requeſt, if 'I had ſhortly meant to have uſed a Sword againſt them.

'To thee, O my God, do I ſtill Appeal, whoſe All-Diſcerning Juſtice ſees 'through all the Diſguiſes of Mens Pretenſions, and Deceitful Darkneſſes of 'their Hearts.

'Let thy Grace Teach me wiſely to enjoy as well the fruſtratings, as the 'fulfillings of my beſt hopes, and moſt ſpecious deſires.

'Thus have they Requited me Evil for Good, and Hatred for my Good-
'Will towards them. O Lord, be thou my Pilot in this dark and dan-
'gerous Storm, *&c.*

All Men but such as are Blinded by the Darkness of HELLISH Malice may clearly Perceive that this Most Christian Prince, by the Excess of His Desires to satisfie the utmost Doubts, and suppress the Fears of any of His Subjects, did so Strengthen the Hands of the *Traiterous* and *Seditious*, that they Acted so Subtilly and Vigorously upon a Pretence of the *Authority of Parliament*, that within a few Years they got their KING into their Power, and Murther'd Him (to the Regret even of divers both of the *Lords* and *Commons*, who continued *Sitting* till they were *Excluded* by the ARMY:) And so in the sight of all the World, they Subverted the whole Government both of *Church* and *State*. I shall here Recite the *Relation* of some of their Unparallel'd *Enormities*, and most Prodigious *Outrage* which was Publisht by a Person that had a full View of them, 'In the Mystery of the Two 'Juntoes, Presbyterians, and Independents, P. 3. We find these words: 'There hath been given away to Members openly (besides innumerable 'private cheats mutually conniv'd at) at least 300000 *l.* in Money, besides 'Rich Offices, Imployments in Money, Committees, Sequestrations, and o-'ther Advantages. Such as have gone beyond the Authority given by Par-'liament, and Sequestred Men unjustly, and so withheld their goods under 'pretence thereof; and such as have Levied Taxes Three or Four Times 'over, are quit from private Actions, and the Benefit of Law, and Justice 'taken from the Oppressed to secure Country Committees and Sequestrators, 'and others (not Prerogative, but Legislative) Thieves, contrary to 'Magna Charta, which says, (*Nulli negabimus, nulli differemus justitiam, 'aut rectum*) We will deny, nor defer Justice, and Right to no Man. 'Oh, Prodigeous Acts, and of greater Tyranny than any *King* ever durst 'Adventure upon! P. 6. How frequently the Country Committees Act con-'trary to the Laws of the Land—— How they ordinarily turn well-affected 'Men out of their Freeholds, and Goods, Imprison, and beat their Persons, 'without any known Charge, Accuser, or Witness against them; nay, Mur-'ther them, as in the Case of Dr. *Rawleigh*, Killed in Prison at *Wells* by the 'Committees Marshal; and the poor Men Murthered at *Bridge-Water*, whose 'Bloods were shed like the Blood of a Dog, and no real Prosecution thereof. '——How they Excluded all other Magistracy, Ingrossing to themselves 'the Power of Sheriffs, Justices of Peace, Church-Wardens, *&c.* in an Ar-'bitrary way; keeping Troops of Horse upon Pay and Free Quarters, for

'their

'their Guard, like the Thirty Tyrants of *Athens*; and if any but ſpeak of 'calling them to give an Account, they preſently Vote him a Delinquent, 'and Sequeſter him.

The Hiſtory of Independency, *P.* 46. '*Anthony Nichols* was Arreſted 'upon the way into *Cornwal* by the Army, and diſpightfully uſed, and when 'the General was inclined to free him, *Cromwell* told him he was a *Traytor* 'to the Army. You ſee now upon whom they meant to fix the Peoples *Al-* 'legiance, for where no *Allegiance* is Due, there can be no *Treaſon*. *P.* 47. 'The Speaker pulled a Letter out of his Pocket from the General, and Ge- 'neral Council of the Army; it was accompanied with a Remonſtrance of 'Villainous Language and Threats againſt thoſe Members that Sate (while 'the Two Speakers were with the Army; calling them *Pretended Members*, 'charging them (in General) with *Treaſon*, *Treachery*, a *Breach of Truſt*; 'and proteſted if they ſhall preſume to ſtir before they have cleared them- 'ſelves, that they did not give their Aſſent to ſuch and ſuch Votes, they ſhould 'ſit at their peril, and he would take them as Priſoners of War and try 'them at a Council of War. What King of *England* ever of- 'fer'd ſo great a Violence to the Fundamental Privileges of Par- 'liament, as to deny them the Liberty of Voting *I* and *No* freely? 'Certainly, *the little Finger of a Jack Cade, or a Watt Tyler*, is far heavier 'than the *Loyns* of any King. *P.* 66. In the Third Year of KING 'CHARLES, the Lords and Commons in their Petition of Right (when 'not above 2000, or 3000 Souldiers were Thinly Quartered upon the 'People but for a Month or Two, Complained thereof to His Majeſty, as a 'great Grievance, contrary to the Laws, and Cuſtoms of the Realm, and 'humbly Prayed as their Right and Liberty, according to the Laws and 'Statutes of this Kingdom, that he would remove them, and that his People 'might not be ſo burthened in times to come; which His Majeſty Graciouſly 'Granted. Yet now we are Ten Thouſand times more oppreſſed with 'them, and if theſe Quarterers offer Violence, or Villainous uſage to any 'man in his Houſe, or Family; or commit Murther, or Fellony, they are 'Protected againſt the Laws, and Juſtice of the Land, and *Triable only by a* 'Council of War at the Head-Quarters, where a Man can neither obtain 'Juſtice, nor ſeek it with ſafety——Tho' the Kings Overſights muſt be *Tra-* 'gically publiſht to the World, yet the Hainous Crimes of the *Godly* muſt 'ly hid under the Mask of Religion. P. 91. You now make all that is or 'can be near and dear to the People, liable to the Paſſions of Three Commit- 'tee Men to Judge and Execute, according to their Diſcretion without Law, 'or ſo much as a formality thereof.

'The Second Part of the Hiſtory of Independency. *P.* 23. It is not all the

'People

'People, nor the Thousandth Part of them, but a few Covetous Ambitious 'Men, that desire to bring the King to Capital Punishment, and Subvert our 'Fundamental Government. *P.* 34. One day an Officer of the Army having 'taken some Members going to the House, and secured them in the *Tobacco* '*Room*, under Guard; the Speaker not being able to muster enough to make 'a House, was fain to send to the said Officer, to lend him his said Prisoners 'to make up a free Parliament, *P.* 35. They Garrison'd *Black Friers*, and 'Sr. *Pauls*, Reforming it from the Church of God to a Den of Thieves, Stable 'of Horses, and Brothel of Whores. *P.* 56 The Commons Resolved to rid their Hands of a KING and LORDS together.

And now Reader, I shall most earnestly entreat thee to Consider whether LUDLOW, and His *Complices*, or KING CHARLES the First, offer'd greater Violence to the LAWS of this Kingdom; yea whether the *Distemper* which the *Body Politick* Labour'd under by reason of the Miscarriages of the King in His Government, were not as Inconsiderable, in Comparison of what it suffer'd by the *Outrages* of the Prevailing Rebels, as a very Tolerable *Ague* of short continnance would be in a Mans Body, in Comparison of the PLAGUE. I think it necessary I should take particular Notice of LUDLOW's Attempt to expose the Memory of this Blessed Prince to the *Odium* of the Populace, by telling them that he did lend Eight Ships to the *French* King to Fight against the Miserable Protestants of *Rochel*, Letter *P.* 10. I shall not undertake to Explain the *Intrigues* of that Affair, the Lending of those Ships, but this I shall Affirm that most certainly it was not done out of any Ill Will to the *French Protestants*; and that the King was so far from being an Enemy to those Protestants, that he was their Great Friend, and most Charitable Assistant: Which I shall here prove by the Testimony of those Protestants themselves, in a Letter to His Majesty, in the *Suppliment to the CABALA*; *P.* 204.

The Protestants *of* France *to* CHARLES *King of* Great Britain.

SIR,

'THe Knowledge, and Resentment, which it hath pleased your Majesty 'to take of the Misery of the afflicted Churches of *France*, hath given us the 'boldness to awaken Your Compassion in such measure as our Calamities are 'Aggravated by the unmerciful Rigour of our Persecutors; and as the pre-'sent Storm doth Threaten near at hand the Total Ruine and Lamentable 'Destruction of that which the Mercy of God had yet kept intire unto us, 'since the Desolation of *Rochel*: And as we have adored with Humility the 'Judgment in this bad Success (which we impute only to his Wrath justly 'kindled against us for our Sins) so our silence could be thought no less than

Ingratitude

'Ingratitude, if we had not at the beginning of our Aſſembly reſolved the 'moſt Humble and Affectionate acknowledgment, which we now render 'to your Majeſty, for the Great Succor which you have ſent us, Intereſting 'your ſelf ſo far in the grief of our Oppreſſion, and in the means of our De-'liverance.

P. 208. *The Duke of* Rohan *to His Majeſty of* Great Britain; 12 *of* March. 1628.

'THe greateſt Support which God hath raiſed unto them, is the Succour 'our Churches have, and do look to receive, from Your Majeſty.

'In the ſame Book P. 232 I find a Council-Table Order againſt hear-'ing Maſs at Embaſſadours Houſes; *March* 10. 1629.

'At this Sitting, the Lord Viſcount *Dorcheſter* Declared, That His Ma-'jeſty being inform'd of bold and open repair made to ſeveral places, and 'eſpecially to the Houſes of Foraign Ambaſſadours, for the hearing of Maſs, 'which the Laws and Statutes of this Kingdom do expreſly forbid his 'Subjects to frequent: And conſidering in His Princely Wiſdom, both 'the Publick Scandals, and dangerous Conſequence thereof, is reſolv'd to 'take preſent Order for the ſtopping of this evil before it ſpread it ſelf any 'farther: And for this purpoſe has Commanded me to acquaint the Board 'with his Pleaſure in that behalf, *&c.* By this and a multitude of other Paſſages in the Reign of this Bleſſed Prince, it is manifeſt how far He was from being a *Papiſt*, tho' to Perſons of that Perſwaſion, He often ſhew'd his Chriſtian Lenity and Royal Compaſſion. His own words are moſt Efficacious to convince the moſt ſtubborn of his Enemies of the ſincerity of His RELIGION, which was always accompanied with *Joy unſpeakable and full of Glory*, ſo that in all his Conflicts, He was *more than Conquerour*. His Expreſſions are ſo Genuine and Unaffected, ſo Lively and Vigorous, that any man who underſtands them muſt needs be *ſenſible*, that they are the True and Lively POURTRAITURE of his Conceptions. 'I ſhall therefore recite ſome more of them upon 'the many Jealouſies raiſed, and Scandals caſt upon the King, to ſtir up 'the People againſt Him.

'I will not juſtifie beyond humane errours and frailties my Self, or my 'Counſellours; they might be ſubject to ſome miſcarriages, yet ſuch as 'were far more repairable, than thoſe Enormous extravagancies, wherewith 'ſome men have now, even wildred, and almoſt quite loſt both Church and 'State.

'No men were more willing to complain, than I was to redreſs what 'I ſaw in reaſon was either done, or adviſed amiſs; and this I thought I had

'had done, even beyond the expectation of moderate Men; who were 'ſorry to ſee Me prone even to injure My ſelf, out of a Zeal to relieve 'My Subjects.

'Time will beſt inform My Subjects, that thoſe are the beſt pre-'ſervers of their true Liberty, who allow themſelves the leaſt Licenti-'ouſneſs againſt, or beyond the Laws.

'They will feel it at laſt to their coſt, that it is impoſſible thoſe men 'ſhould be really tender of their Fellow-Subjects Liberties, who have 'the hardineſs to uſe their King with ſo ſevere reſtraints; againſt all Laws, 'both Divine, and Humane.

'For Mine Honour I am well aſſured, that as Mine Innocency is clear 'before God, in point of any Calamities they object; ſo My Reputation 'ſhall like the Sun (after Owles and Bats have had their freedom in the 'Night, and darker times) riſe and recover it ſelf to ſuch a degree of 'Splendour, as thoſe feral Birds ſhall be grieved to behold, and unable to 'bear. For never were any Princes more glorious than thoſe whom God 'hath ſuffer'd to be tried in the Furnace of Afflictions, by their 'Injurious Subjects. Nor ſhall their black vails be able to hide the ſhine-'ing of My Face, while God gives Me a heart frequently and hum-'bly to converſe with him, from whom alone are all the Traditions of 'true Glory and Majeſty.

'Thou, O Lord, knoweſt My Reproach and my Diſhonour, My Ad-'verſaries are all before thee.

'My Soul is among Lyons, even them that are ſet on fire, even the 'ſons of men, whoſe teeth are ſpears and arrows, their tongue a ſharp 'ſword.

'Mine Enemies Reproach Me all the day long, and thoſe that are mad 'againſt Me, are ſworn together.

'O my God, how long ſhall the ſons of men turn my glory into ſhame? 'how long ſhall they love vanity, and ſeek after lies?

'Teach me *Davids* patience, and *Hezekiak*'s devotion, that I may look 'to thy mercy through man's malice, and ſee thy juſtice in their ſin.

'Though they curſe, do thou bleſs, and I ſhall be bleſſed, and made 'a bleſſing to my People.

To them He ſhall be a Bleſſing indeed, in this and in all future Ages, who ſhall have the Grace to Imitate the Example of His Virtues, by a ſincere and conſtant dependance upon the Divine Wiſdom, Power and Goodneſs, Loving in Sincerity the worſt of their Enemies, and rejoycing in the greateſt of their Sufferings.

FINIS.